

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 6-17 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Yao et al. (WO 97/38855) in view of Sakagami et al. (JP 07-134209). Claim 5 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have canceled claim 5 and incorporated the subject matter of claim 5 into claim 1. Therefore, newly amended claim 1 is allowable as are dependent claims 2 and 6-17.

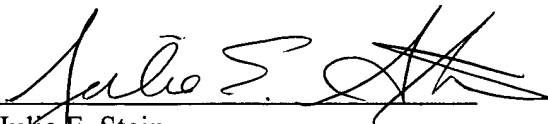
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention, as amended, is in condition for allowance and an early notification thereof being earnestly solicited.

The Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees relevant to this filing to Deposit Account 11-0600. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter relating to the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice and disclaimer.

1. (Amended) An infrared absorption filter which has a transmittance of not higher than 30% in the near-infrared region in the wavelength range of 800 to 1100 nm;

a difference of 10% or less between a maximum value and a minimum value of transmittance in the visible light region in the wavelength range of 450 to 650 nm; and

a transmittance of not lower than 50% at a wavelength of 550 nm,

said filter, after being left to stand in the air atmosphere at a temperature of 60°C and a humidity of 95% for 1000 hours, having

a transmittance of not higher than 30% in the near-infrared region in the wavelength range of 800 to 1100 nm, and

a difference of 10% or less between a maximum value and a minimum value of transmittance in the visible light region in the wavelength range of 450 to 650 nm,

said filter having an infrared-absorbing layer on a transparent substrate, [and]

the infrared-absorbing layer being composed of a coloring matter, dye or pigment absorbing infrared radiation and a polymer serving as a dispersing medium and

the transparent substrate having a total light transmittance of not lower than 89%, a haze of not higher than 1.6%, a coefficient of static friction of not higher than 0.6 and a coefficient of dynamic friction of not higher than 0.6.